

JAN 31 2006

PATENT

Atty. Dkt. No. 8201:E-US

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE****In re Application of:**  
Michael Meek**Serial No.: 10/683947****Group Art Unit: 3636****Confirmation No.: 3886****Examiner: YIP, WINNIE S****Filed: 10/10/2003****For: FRAMING SYSTEM FOR  
BUILDINGS**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT****Dear Sirs:**

The applicant hereby respectfully submits a Preliminary Amendment, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.****Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.****Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.****Page 1**